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Book and Job Printing

EXECUTED WITH NEATNESS AND DESPATCH.

POPULAR TALES.

THE LEFT-HAND GLOVE;
OR, CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

A THRILLING TALE.

On the summit of a hill near Muhlback, a small town of Rhenish Prussia, there is a chapel dedicated to St. Joseph. Being a place of pilgrimage, this chapel is on festival days visited by many of the inhabitants of the surrounding country; but on the other days of the year it seldom happens that the sound of a human foot disturbs the sacred solitude.

Very early on the morning of the 19th July, 1818, a peasant proceeding to work, was wending his way along a narrow path at the foot of the hill. His dog was running before him. Suddenly the animal stopped short, and in another moment darted off rapidly in the direction of the chapel. The dog soon returned to his master, howling piteously, and betraying unequivocal signs of terror. The peasant quickened his pace and turned directly into the path leading to the chapel. On coming within sight of the portal of the little edifice, he was horror-struck to behold, stretched on the steps, the lifeless body of a young man.

The terrified peasant hurried to the neighboring village with tidings of what he had seen. The news spread with the swiftness of lightning, and in a very short space of time the magistrate of the district, accompanied by the village doctor and schoolmaster, and followed by a crowd of country people, were ascending the hill in the direction of the chapel.

The body was found on the spot and in the position described by the peasant. It was the corpse of a very handsome young man; part of the clothing, viz., the coat and waistcoat, had been taken off, and beneath the shirt there was found a piece of cloth of a bright red color, apparently the fragment of a shawl. The piece of cloth was laid in several folds over the region of the heart. It was fastened by a band of fine lawn or cambric which was rolled round the body, and the whole was firmly fixed by a mass of congealed blood. On a careful removal of these bandages, there was discovered a deep wound, which had divided the carotid artery. The deceased wore light colored pantaloons, boots with spurs, and on one of his fingers was a massive gold-signet ring. The ground around the spot where the body lay exhibited no trace of any struggle; but prints of footsteps, partially obliterated, were perceptible. These marks were traced to a neighboring wood, and in the direction of an eminence which towered above the trees, and whose summit was crowned by the ruins of the old castle of Ottenberg—a place which the neighboring country people believed was haunted.

Whilst the doctor and others were engaged in examining the body, some of the rustic crowd mustered courage to trace the footprints, which apparently led to the ruined castle—their superstitious fears being doubtless lulled by the conviction that ghosts are not prone to wander in the bright sunshine of a July morning. One of the party was soon seen running back to the chapel in breathless haste, announcing that the scene of the crime was discovered. The magistrate proceeded to the ruins of the castle, and what he saw left no room to doubt that the murder had actually been committed there. The floor of the spacious area (once the banquet hall of the castle) was stained with blood. The walls, the table, and the seats, also presented similar stains. On the table were the remains of a repast which had evidently been partaken of at no very distant date, for there were fragments of bread and fruit, and a broken bottle in which some wine still remained.

On farther examination, deep prints of footsteps were perceived leading from the ruins of Ottenberg to the high road of Bekking, in a direction quite opposite to that of the chapel. A little farther on in the same track, was found a piece of red cloth; and on comparison it was ascertained to belong to the same shawl, a fragment of which had been used to staunch the wound of the victim. At the foot of a tree lay a lady's glove, nearly new, but stained with blood. Nothing more was discovered, and in the evening the body was interred in the village churchyard, after being throughout the day exposed to the public gaze.

On the following day, an innkeeper presented himself to the magistrate of the district. He had recognised the murdered man a traveller who slept in his house on the night of the 15th of July, and who left early on the following morning. He knew neither the name nor the condition of the stranger, nor had he heard from whence he came, or whether he was going. The innkeeper observed that he had a gold watch and chain, a red morocco pocket-book, and a green silk purse; moreover, that he wore two rings, one of which he had recognised on the dead body.

An active inquiry was set on foot; but no circumstance of importance was brought to light, until about six weeks afterwards. The police then ascertained that a gentleman named Von Bergfeldt, who had been residing for some time at Coblenz, had suddenly disappeared. He came from Frankfurt, and to all appearance possessed plenty of money. He had made several excursions to various parts of the adjacent country, and his journeys had extended as far as the mountains of the Vosges. An old soldier, who had been his servant for a number of years, and also a proprietor of a house which he had hired, came to Muhlback; both had a perfect recollection of the watch and the two rings remarked by the innkeeper; the servant positively affirmed that the boots found on the dead body belonged to his master.

Several months elapsed, and public interest, which had been powerfully excited by this mysterious event, was gradually subsiding, when a gentleman of rank, travelling to the waters of Podewil, happened to pass through Muhlback. Hearing of the murder, he was struck by the name of the victim—Bergfeldt being the name of one of the most ancient and noble families in Silesia. He knew their armorial bearing, and he expressed a wish to see the signet-ring which had been found upon the body. The engraved coat-of-arms was identified with that of the Silesian Bergfeldts, viz., quarterly Sable and Azure on a Chief Or, a Serpent between Two Bees.

The Ober-Procureur of Muhlback lost no time in addressing a letter to the authorities of Breslau. An answer was speedily returned enclosing a letter signed Ferdinand von Bergfeldt, the writer of which described himself as being the second son of the old Baron Franz von Bergfeldt. He stated that his elder brother had about two years previously, left home to make a tour in various parts of Europe, and that the family had received no intelligence of him for a very considerable time.

"Every circumstance," pursued the writer of the letter, "leads to the supposition, that the victim of the recent murder is no other than my unfortunate brother. Our family has the greatest interest in elucidating this mystery, inasmuch as our paternal estates are entailed on heirs male. My brother was married, but he had separated from his wife, by whom he had a daughter who died in infancy. I shall set out forthwith for Muhlback."

Ferdinand von Bergfeldt arrived at Muhlback in December; he examined the effects of the deceased, and the documents relative to the examination of witnesses. It appeared evident, beyond doubt, that his brother had perished by the hand of a murderer; but nevertheless, it was requisite he should be provided with an attested certificate of his death, before he could take possession of the inheritance which would devolve on him as next heir, at the decease of his then very aged father.

He engaged the assistance of the advocate Schelnitz, a lawyer of justly reputed intelligence and activity, and with him he proceeded to Coblenz. The mystery of the case, the important interest involved in it, and the rank of the family all contributed to stimulate the zeal of Schelnitz, and he speedily brought to light certain facts which promised to lead to the detection of the criminal.

Ferdinand and the lawyer visited the house which had been occupied by Edward von Bergfeldt at Coblenz. Seals had been affixed to all the drawers, trunks, &c., and on a careful examination of the effects, there was found in the pocket of a coat a note written in French. The address had been torn off, but the note was as follows:—

"I grant the interview on condition of its being the last. Your threats can never intimidate me. I defend myself with the arms of virtue and honor. This is my last communication. Secret correspondence must not continue. C—
"July 13th."

As soon as Ferdinand von Bergfeldt perused this note, he felt convinced that he was on the right track for the discovery of the murderer.

"It had been conjectured," observed he, "that robbery was the motive for taking my brother's life—no such thing! I feel assured that the fatal blow was struck by a female hand—the same hand to which the glove belongs, and the same hand which traced this note. Every one of our family are aware that my brother did not behave well to his wife; and that his conduct caused them to separate shortly after their marriage."

The active inquiry now set on foot brought to the knowledge of the magistrate various circumstances worthy of attention.

A country girl deposed that, whilst she was engaged in cutting wood in the neighborhood of the castle of Ottenberg, on the morning of the 16th of July, she had seen a gentleman in a hunting dress walking with a lady. She described the lady to have worn a straw bonnet, a bright colored dress, and to have carried a parasol. The keeper of the baths at Podewil, near Muhlback, furnished testimony somewhat more important. He stated that, about noon on the 16th of July, a lady elegantly attired, but pale and evidently suffering from fatigue, came to the door of the bathing establishment, and wanted some person to tie a bandage round her right hand, which she said she had accidentally cut. The wife of the bath-keeper washed and bandaged the wound. The cut was long, but not very deep, and appeared to have been inflicted with a knife. The lady requested to have a clean white handkerchief, which was furnished to her; she left a ducat in payment, and went away hurriedly. An old man, dressed like a wood-cutter, had been observed waiting for her at some distance, and the lady having joined him, they went away together. From the evidence of a person living near the baths, it appeared that, being at work behind a hedge, he had heard a short colloquy

between the lady and her guide. The former was weeping and appeared greatly distressed. The old man said to her:—

"In the name of Heaven, madam, be calm.—Tears cannot recall the dead to life—from me you have nothing to fear—I will be silent—silent as the grave!"

These witness described the lady to have had a light-colored parasol, a straw bonnet trimmed with flowers, and a green silk dress.

Ferdinand von Bergfeldt now entertained no doubt that the investigation would speedily lead to a satisfactory result. In a letter, which he addressed to the magistrate of Muhlback, he said:—

"We shall soon unravel the truth. We have the glove, and it will not be long ere we have the hand. It is the right-hand glove, and, on turning it inside out, I have made a discovery which has heretofore escaped observation. In the inside is written a name, part of which is obliterated, the letters *Heim—F—ke*, being all that are legible." But was this the name of the wearer or the maker? With the view of solving this question, the glove was transmitted to an experienced agent, who had orders to spare no exertions for the elucidation of the fact.

At this juncture an unexpected circumstance intervened. A festival day was at hand, and in preparation for it the chapel of St. Joseph was swept and cleaned. The box destined for receiving donations for the poor was opened; within it was found a green-silk purse, containing a considerable sum in gold and silver, together with a slip of paper, on which were written the following words:—"Give the dead man Christian burial, and Heaven will reward you!" It will be recollected that the innkeeper had seen a green silk purse in the hand of the stranger who had slept a night in his house. He was shown the purse found in the poor box, and he identified it as the same.

Meanwhile, Ferdinand von Bergfeldt received letters from Silesia, acquainting him with his father's sudden death. He hurried home without delay; he was aware that in the event of his brother Edward's death being proved it would be necessary that he should go immediately to Berlin to obtain the requisite authority for entering into possession of his inheritance. In this matter he counted on the support of his sister-in-law; as the widow would be entitled to an annuity much more considerable than the sum she had received as alimony since her separation from her husband.

Ferdinand von Bergfeldt was not on friendly terms with the family of his brother's wife. Some overtures for effecting reconciliation between the husband and wife had been obstinately opposed by the father of the lady, General Count Hildenrath. The circumstance, in no slight degree, wounded the pride of the Bergfeldts.

On the 20th of June, 1819, Ferdinand arrived in Berlin, and he lost no time in visiting General Hildenrath, by whom he was not received in a very cordial manner. Edward's widow, Charlotte von Bergfeldt, was from home. Whilst Ferdinand was relating to the general all that he had learned respecting his brother's death a carriage stopped at the door, and in a few moments Charlotte entered the drawing room. At sight of Ferdinand, who advanced to meet her with respectful interest, she turned deadly pale, staggered, and seemed on the point of falling, but as if by a sudden effort recovering her self-possession she courted and withdrew. Ferdinand was vexed at this behavior, which he regarded as an unequivocal sign of animosity, and after a little farther conversation with the general he took his leave.

He subsequently saw Charlotte several times, and though she did not seek to avoid him yet she behaved with coolness and reserve. Though she had just grounds of complaint against her husband, yet she rendered the due tribute of regret for his sudden and unfortunate death. About the end of August, Ferdinand received a letter from Schelnitz, which was in substance as follows:—

"I have some particulars to communicate which appears to me to be of the utmost importance, and to which I beg your attention. In the first place I have to inform you that we have found the *left-hand glove*. The name Heinrich Finacke is legibly written in the inside. It is supposed to be the name of the manufacturer, and we have taken measures for ascertaining this fact. The glove was discovered in the following manner: In the course of his investigations, the police agent, who had possession of the right-hand glove, showed it to a milliner of Muhlback named Mademoiselle Enkel. A lady named Raumer, who was a customer of the milliner happened to see the glove, and examined it attentively. This lady knew that I was engaged in investigating the affair of the murder at Ottenberg. Three days afterwards, Mademoiselle Raumer called on me and presented to me the *left-hand glove*. This lady is an intimate friend of the family of the Protestant Pastor Gaeben. She related to me that, one day whilst she was visiting the daughters of that clergyman, a discussion arose on some point of dress, and one of the young ladies having opened a drawer to search for something, accidentally drew out a glove, which fell at the feet of Mademoiselle Raumer. On picking it up, she perceived something written in the inside, and she mechanically read the name *Heinrich Finacke*.

"Where did you get this glove, my dear Caroline?" inquired Mademoiselle Raumer.

"From the *femme de chambre* of a lady who was here last summer from Berlin," was the reply.

"I lost no time," added Schelnitz, "in writing to the Pastor Gaeben, and he called on me this morning, accompanied by his daughter Caroline. They were very uneasy lest the discovery of the glove, a circumstance in itself so trivial, should place them in an unpleasant position. I tried to dispel their apprehensions, and begged the young lady would tell me candidly how the glove came into her possession."

"She informed me that a young widow lady, Madam Weltheim, a resident of Berlin, had some time ago been on a visit to Baron Schonwald at his castle near Muhlback. Caroline, who was a good musician, frequently went to the castle to sing and accompany the lady on the pianoforte. When Madam Weltheim *femme de chambre* to pack up. In a small box filled with ribbons, flowers, and other trifles the glove was found. Being an odd one, the lady's-maid threw it on the ground as useless. Caroline, admiring the small size and elegant form of the glove picked it up and said she would keep it as a memorial of Madam Weltheim. I am fully convinced," pursued Schelnitz, "that all the young lady has stated is strictly true."

You remember the letter written in French which was found among your brother's effects. Its signature was the letter C. Now I am informed that Madam Weltheim's *femme de chambre* was a French girl, and that her name was Cecile. You will, no doubt, be struck with this coincidence. Cecile is described as tall and slender; Caroline Gaeben is, on the contrary, of short stature. All that I can learn of Madam Weltheim is, that she is a lady of good family, and moves in the best society of Berlin."

It is strange, thought Ferdinand, when he had finished reading the letter, that Schelnitz should attach so much importance to coincidences which seem to me the mere result of chance. He went out to call on Count Hildenrath, with the intention of communicating to him what he had learned. The count was from home, but the countess, who had just arrived from the country, received him with great kindness. She was full of curiosity respecting the murder, and pressed Ferdinand to inform her of all the particulars.

"Your brother was buried near the spot where his body was found, I believe," said the lady.

"Yes, madam, his ashes repose in the little village churchyard, not far from Muhlback."

"Muhlback!" exclaimed the countess. "Oh, what would have been poor Charlotte's feelings had she known that! She was not far from Muhlback at the time."

"How, madam! Was my sister-in-law near Muhlback?"

"She was passing some time at the castle of Baron Schonwald, which is only a few leagues from Muhlback. Don't you know Baron Schonwald? He is a very pleasant man, only so exceedingly fond of hunting. And the baroness—she is quite an oddity? In her youth she was one of the maids of honor to the electress! There was no king of Saxony in those days. But every thing is changed now; and as I was observing a day or so ago to my friend Madam Schlichtegroll, I don't know what we have gained by all these changes!"

In this way the talkative old lady gossiped for some time, unheeded by Ferdinand, who was absorbed in profound reflection.

"How!" thought he to himself; "Charlotte so near the scene of the crime, and we not know it!—She and her father have been silent on a fact which they ought to have apprised me the very first moment of their arrival."

He took leave of the countess, and returned in a very pleasant mood to his hotel. He once more read the letter of Schelnitz, and pondered on every line of it. Another initial C had now come to light. Was it the one they were in quest of? Could the accusatory glove belong to Charlotte? Had she assumed the character of a widow with the false name of Madam Weltheim? These and a thousand other perplexing thoughts and suspicions haunted the mind of Ferdinand throughout the night.

Next morning he again repaired to the hotel of Count Hildenrath. He found the countess and her daughter together in the drawing-room. The conversation naturally turned on the legal inquiries which were going on for the verification of his brother's death. Charlotte at first betrayed no sign of embarrassment or uneasiness.

"I believe, madam," said Ferdinand, "you are acquainted with the family of Baron Schonwald, who resided near Muhlback?"

"I have some slight acquaintance with them," replied Madam von Bergfeldt.

"Do you happen to know the daughter of the Pastor Gaeben who lives in the neighbourhood of the castle?"

"He has several daughters."

"I mean the second daughter: Caroline, I think, is her name."

"Yes, I know her. She is a charming girl, and a great favourite of mine."

"I have just learned that she is implicated, in a very serious way, in the horrible affair which we are investigating. The police has been discovered?"

"What! What has been discovered?" exclaimed Charlotte, her eyes starting wildly, and her cheeks turning pale. "Can it be possible? Poor Caroline! She is innocent—quite innocent! I will go immediately to Muhlback—I must save her!"

She sank back on the sofa, apparently in a state of unconsciousness. The countess rang the bell violently, and the servants having come to her assistance, Ferdinand hurriedly rushed down stairs, and left the house.

The mystery is revealed," thought he. "Charlotte undertakes to prove the innocence of Caroline! This is equivalent to admitting that she knows the author of the crime! Discovery is now at hand. I need not stay longer in Berlin."

He was about to order post-horses for the purpose of departing, but in the course of the afternoon, a note was delivered to him. It was from Charlotte, who wished to have a private conversation with him.

Madam von Bergfeldt received her brother-in-law with the most perfect composure, though she had not entirely recovered from the emotion which had so suddenly overcome her in the morning. She was very desirous to know what was the charge against Caroline Gaeben, and what discovery had implicated her.

Ferdinand evaded these questions by observing that the letter he had received from Schelnitz was very vaguely expressed; and that, though he stated that serious suspicions hung over the pastor's daughter, he had not stated the circumstances on which they were grounded. Charlotte informed him that it was her intention immediately to set out for Muhlback, where she could produce testimony to prove the innocence of her young friend. He mollified her to accompany her; the count, who was suffering from severe illness, being unable to undertake so long a journey. This plan entirely coincided with Ferdinand's wishes. Regarding to a pardonable dissimulation, he pretended that it was his purpose to return home to Silesia immediately. That same night, however, he left Berlin, and took the road to Muhlback, with the view of reaching that place before the arrival of his sister-in-law.

On reaching his destination, the first thing he did was to call on Schelnitz, to whom he communicated all that had transpired at Berlin.

"I have a few additional particulars to relate to you," observed the lawyer; "I have collected them from a domestic who recently quitted the service of Baron Schonwald. The 16th of July was a Saturday; it was a festival day, and the Schonwald family went to Muhlback. Madam Weltheim did not go with them, but she went thither in company with a lady (Madame Rosen) and her two daughters. The party reached Muhlback in the morning, and about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, Madam Weltheim left her friends, and did not rejoin them again till evening. Now," observed Schelnitz, "it would be very important to ascertain where she went and how she was employed during this interval of absence. The Schonwalds and the Rosens might possibly furnish information on that point; I therefore advise you to see them. Madam Rosen wishes to dispose of her estate. You may present yourself as a purchaser. By that means you will be sure of a favorable reception. Draw the ladies into conversation, and try to learn from them all that took place on the 16th of July."

Ferdinand followed his advice. He learned from Madame Rosen that, whilst the ladies were breakfasting at Muhlback, a country girl brought a letter for Madam Weltheim. She stated it to be from a very old friend, a Madame Treskoff, who resided in Muhlback, and who wished particularly to see her. Madam Weltheim hastily put on her bonnet, and departed, followed by the girl. It was night, and candles were lighted when she returned. She seemed agitated, and the redness of her eyes denoted that she had been weeping. The ladies anxiously inquired the cause of her trouble, and she replied that her feelings had been deeply moved by finding her friend, Madame Treskoff, in great distress.

Continuing his interrogatories, Ferdinand was further informed, that though Madam Weltheim frequently wore a green silk dress, yet it was not positively remembered whether she wore it on the 16th of July.

"She was much agitated on her return," observed one of the ladies, "and she had only one glove on. These words made Ferdinand almost leap from his chair. This struck me as very remarkable, as she was always most precise in the details of her dress. I remarked to her that she had only one glove, to which she replied, 'Ah! I was not aware of it. I suppose I must have dropped it at my friend's!'"

Ferdinand had thus learned more than he expected. Taking a hurried leave of Madame Rosen and her daughters, he went immediately to Schelnitz. The latter was of opinion that nothing now remained to be done but to denounce Charlotte von Bergfeldt as the murderer of her husband. He inquired in Muhlback and its neighborhood whether a lady named Treskoff had lived there in the month of July. Her name was unknown to any one.

"There can be no doubt," said Schelnitz, "that Charlotte von Bergfeldt struck the fatal blow. It is useless to endeavor to sound the motives for a crime which Providence has miraculously disclosed by an unparalleled chain of concurring circumstances. She may have been prompted by jealousy—by hatred of a husband whose conduct it would appear without free from blame—or by cupidity; for, on the death of Edward von Bergfeldt, his widow, by the terms of the marriage settlement, is to possess a considerable portion of the revenues derived from the estates. But, whatever may have been the motive for the crime, Charlotte von Bergfeldt is certainly guilty."

The minutes of the evidence for the prosecution were drawn up in due legal form, and laid before the Ober-Procureur of Coblenz. Meanwhile Madam von Bergfeldt, accompanied by her mother, arrived there. Full of anxiety to know what proceedings had been taken against Caroline Gaeben, she called on Schelnitz, whose name and address she had learned from Ferdinand. Schelnitz referred her for information to the Ober-Procureur, to whom he immediately conducted her.

"Madame," said the magistrate, addressing her, "your brother-in-law has charged Caroline Gaeben with being implicated in the murder of your husband. He assures me that he can produce satisfactory proofs of her guilt; but he has not stated to me what these proofs are. I understand that you have come here for the purpose of removing the suspicions which hang over that young lady."

"I have, sir; but I cannot conceive how suspicion can possibly attach to Mademoiselle Gaeben. She did not know my husband. She never even saw him."

"How can you be certain of that, madam? You cannot know whom your husband may have seen during your separation from him. How long is it since you last saw him?"

Charlotte felt that she was approaching dangerous ground.

"The will of my parents," said she, "prohibited all communication between me and the Baron von Bergfeldt after our separation; I do not consider it necessary to enter upon any further explanation on that painful subject."

Resolved, if possible, to elicit something decided, the magistrate, fixing his eyes sternly on her, inquired whether she had not visited Muhlback on the 16th of July in the preceding year.

"Yes, sir," she replied, "I think I was there on that day."

"How did you employ your time during the morning?"

Charlotte was silent, and a livid paleness overspread her countenance.

"Madame Rosen and her daughters," pursued the magistrate, "have declared that you parted from them at an early hour, and that you did not rejoin them until evening."

"I cannot understand," said Charlotte, in a faltering voice, "why these ladies have been examined; nor can I guess to what all these inquiries tend."

"Permit me to observe, madam, that you have not answered the question I just now put to you, and that an answer is necessary for your justification."

"For my justification! Then it appears I am accused! I now understand the meaning of this episcopus interrogatory. I will not condescend to enter upon explanation. That would be beneath me. I will remain silent. Henceforth my lips are sealed on this subject. No power on earth shall draw a word from me. Now, sir, do whatever your duty may dictate! You know my determination."

The magistrate found himself obliged to sign an order for the imprisonment of Madam von Bergfeldt. Next day she was confronted with the keeper of the baths at Podewil and his wife. Both unhesitatingly recognized her to be the lady who, on the 16th of July, had presented herself at the door of their establishment. Her right hand was examined, and across the palm there was a mark which might have been caused by a cut; but the scar was so slight as to render this circumstance a matter of doubt.

An order was forwarded to Berlin for putting under seal all the papers and effects belonging to Madam von Bergfeldt. They were previously examined in the presence of a magistrate. Among the papers nothing of importance was found, but in a jewel case not there was discovered a gold watch, which the

used lady had presented to her husband on his marriage, and a ring which Edward had been in the habit of wearing. How did these objects come into Charlotte's possession? Had her husband returned them to her at the time of their separation? These questions could be answered only by conjecture.

All this mass of evidence having been submitted to the consideration of the judges, the officers of police were directed to seek out three persons whose testimony appeared to be important. These were the old wood-cutter, who accompanied the lady when she called at the baths of Podewitz, the French *femme de chambre*, and the country girl who had conveyed the letter to Madame Bergfeldt, (under the name of Madame Weltheim) at Mulbach. The wood-cutter was no where to be found. As to Cecile, she had quitted her mistress's service on her return to Berlin, and was now married. In countenance and figure she was totally different from her mistress. No suspicion attached to her, and she could furnish no information calculated to throw light on the subject of inquiry. The girl who brought the letter to Madame von Bergfeldt was traced out, and she stated that, in 1818, she was in the service of a Madame Wunderlich at Mulbach. She recollected that some time in the month of July a gentleman called on her mistress, who then desired her to take a letter to a lady, whose name she had forgotten. After reading the letter, the lady went with her to Madame Wunderlich's. The girl described the gentleman to have been tall and thin, with dark moustaches. He wore a green hunting-coat, light coloured pantaloons, and boots with spurs. This description corresponded with the appearance and dress of Edward von Bergfeldt.

These examinations being terminated, the case was deemed to be sufficiently established to warrant an order for the trial of the accused before the criminal court of Coblentz.

On the day fixed for the trial, an immense crowd thronged every avenue leading to the court. Madame von Bergfeldt was conducted into the presence of the judges. She was dressed in deep mourning, looked very pale, and, though evidently deeply affected, she was still struggling to repress her emotion.

The witnesses, forty-three in number, were examined. Their testimony confirmed all the particulars already narrated, and though no new facts were disclosed, yet the interest excited by the trial continued to increase. At the close of the examinations the advocate for the accused entered upon her defence. He delivered a long and eloquent address, in the course of which he ingeniously set forth every argument that could turn to the advantage of the prisoner. He dwelt earnestly on the fact of there being no positive proof that the body found on the steps of St. Joseph's Chapel was the body of Edward von Bergfeldt. Referring to the annals of criminal jurisprudence, he adduced the cases of several persons who had on circumstantial evidence been condemned and executed for murder, and whose presumed victims were subsequently discovered to be living. He concluded by expressing regret that the accused had determined to remain silent under the charge brought against her, and to withhold all explanation respecting the events of the fatal day; but, unaccountable as that determination was, he observed, that it ought not to be regarded as an evidence of guilt.

The advocate had just closed his address, when a messenger hastily entered the court, and presented a billet to the president, which the latter read aloud. It contained the following words: "I entreat to be heard immediately. I can prove the innocence of the accused!"

"Let the person be brought into court," said the president.

The utmost curiosity and agitation now prevailed, and several voices were heard to exclaim, "Doubtless it is Edward von Bergfeldt!"

The unexpected witness presently appeared. He was a man of tall stature and of military bearing. As soon as Charlotte beheld him she uttered a piercing shriek. Having, not without some difficulty, made his way through the crowd, the stranger at length stood before the judges.

"My name," said he, "is George von Rothkirch, and I am an officer in the 3d Dragoons. That lady, whose innocence I am enabled to prove, is bound by an oath which compels her to remain silent. I beg permission to address a few words to her, and afterwards I will satisfactorily explain the mysterious event which occupies the attention of this assembly."

The president consulted the court, and the stranger was permitted to speak to the prisoner. "Madam," said he, "death has broken the bond by which you believed yourself to be bound. Your father is no more. He died invoking blessings on you, and in ignorance of the dreadful position in which you are placed. Permit me now to reveal the truth."

Charlotte replied by a look of gratitude and a flood of tears, and George von Rothkirch spoke as follows:

"Being in garrison at Coblentz in 1818, I met Edward von Bergfeldt, with whom I had formerly been acquainted. He then appeared ill and low-spirited, weary of life, and dissatisfied with himself. He spoke to me unreservedly of the difference between himself and his wife, acknowledged that he had not behaved well, but wished for reconciliation. I visited the family of Baron Schonwald, at whose house I met a lady who was introduced to me as Madame Weltheim. I was charmed with her beauty and intelligence, and frequently spoke of her to Edward. He wished to see the lady whom I so highly extolled, but I could not prevail on him to accompany me to Baron Schonwald's. At length I had an opportunity of pointing out Madame Weltheim to him on a public promenade.

"My dear Rothkirch," he exclaimed, "she is my wife!"

He insisted on my conveying to her a proposal for reconciliation. Madame von Bergfeldt at first refused to listen to it, alleging that her parent would never forgive her if she saw or corresponded with her husband; at length, however, I succeeded in shaking her determination, and she consented to grant him an interview.

"It was arranged that on a certain day, when she was to go to Mulbach with some friends, and I was to go to the castle on the other side of the river, by which was the name of Madame Tresshoff, should send a message requesting to see her. She was then to join me at

the residence of a lady in Mulbach, and I was to conduct her to the castle of Ottenberg, where her husband had promised to be in waiting for her.

"On meeting her husband, Madame Bergfeldt was evidently agitated by painful emotions, which she vainly struggled to repress. Edward, on his part, was exceedingly gay and animated; he had brought with him a wood-cutter, who carried a hammer, furnished with a *dejeuner*. The husband broached the subject of reconciliation, which the wife endeavored to evade on the ground of the objections of her parents. The dialogue became warm, and reproaches were mutually interchanged. Edward complained of the heat, which was indeed excessive, and he frequently had recourse to the wine, of which he drank very freely. I observed that he was becoming greatly excited, and he even went so far as to utter threats of vengeance, if his wife did not accede to his offers of reconciliation. Madame von Bergfeldt wished to depart, but he seized her by the arm and detained her.

"Ah!" he exclaimed, "would you doom me again to the miserable life I have suffered for some years past; sooner will I end my days," and seizing a knife from off the table, he made a motion as if intending to stab himself.

"Edward," said I, "why terrify your wife by acting this farce?"

"Farce!" resumed he, in a tone of furious anger, "do you suppose I fear death?"

By a movement more rapid than thought, he plunged the knife into his heart. He fell at my feet deluged in blood, and Charlotte fainted.

"The wood-cutter, who had been sitting at some distance off, now ran to us. Edward was a lifeless corpse. With some difficulty we recovered Madame von Bergfeldt, who in this terrible crisis evinced great energy and feeling. It was long before we could prevail on her to abandon the lifeless remains of her husband, for whom she was most anxious to secure a fitting burial.

The wood-cutter suggested the idea of placing the body on the steps of the chapel, where, he said, it was sure to be speedily discovered. We removed some of the clothing, being desirous of creating the suspicion of murder rather than of suicide. Charlotte wished to have her husband's watch and ring which he wore; he had a second ring, but we found we could not remove it without mutilating the finger. We bandaged the wound, in order to stop the effusion of blood, and then withdrew. Madame von Bergfeldt cut her hand slightly in her endeavor to snatch the knife from Edward; she was dreadfully agitated by the horrible scene, and reproached herself for having caused the catastrophe by violating her father's injunctions.

"But," said she, "he shall never know what has happened—it would break his heart. Whatever may be the result—even though I should die on the scaffold—so long as my father lives, I will bury the knowledge of this sad event in inviolable silence."

"She made me and the wood-cutter take a solemn oath never to divulge what we had witnessed."

"Shortly after this event, my regiment was removed from Coblentz to a distant garrison. I heard nothing more of Madame von Bergfeldt, and I dared not write to her. A short time ago, I retired from the army, with the intention of proceeding to the United States, where my brother has long resided. Passing through the Rhenish Provinces, on my way to the port at which I proposed to embark, I heard of this trial—the whole truth instantly flashed across my mind, and I at once understood the chain of mysterious circumstances which had fixed suspicion on Charlotte von Bergfeldt. I hastened to Baron Schonwald, who related to me all he knew of the case, and showed me a letter which he had received only a day or two ago, announcing the death of Count Hildenrath. There was not a moment to be lost, and I hurried hither. Death has released me from my oath, and will, I trust, induce Madame von Bergfeldt to break the silence she imposed on herself."

He gave the name and dwelling-place of the wood-cutter, who, being found, confirmed the accuracy of his statement. The court then immediately pronounced the acquittal of Charlotte von Bergfeldt.

A gentleman who happened to be present at the extraordinary trial above described, was, in the month of August, 1820, a temporary resident at the Hotel d'Angleterre at Havre. One day as he was passing down the staircase of the hotel, he met a lady whom he immediately recognized to be Charlotte von Bergfeldt.

"Who is that lady?" inquired he of one of the waiters, whom he saw in the hall.

"She is a German lady," was the answer; "her name is Madame von Rothkirch; she and her husband arrived here the day before yesterday, and they are to sail to-morrow for New York on board the Quincey Adams."

HEALTH OF GOV. DORR. The painful suspicions which were naturally excited by the half-flattering, half-insulting notice that appeared in the Whig journals a few days since in reference to the fine health, buoyant spirits, and artistic proficiency, of Gov. Dorr, in prison, receive full and most unwelcome confirmation in the Providence Gazette on Monday morning. The editor of that journal informs us that Gov. Dorr's health is probably worse than it has ever been before, since his confinement. He is bent nearly double with his enemy, the rheumatism; and if not soon restored to a healthful atmosphere, must pay the debt of nature. In consequence of this information, touching the present condition of the prisoner there are increasing reasons, why his friends should be moving, and speedily, for his restoration to the world. We cannot pass from this painful subject without expressing not only our astonishment, but our abhorrence at that vindictive and heartless malevolence which could conceive and bring forth such a perversion of fact, mingled with risible insinuation, as was exhibited in the flippant notices referred to in the commencement of this paragraph.

N. Y. News.

The Syracuse Star announces the death of the Chief of the Onondaga Indians, at the Castle on Saturday last, at the age of 100 years.

BRITISH POLICY.

It has long been the policy of the British government so to manage as to make the people of other nations fight her battles. This is accomplished by her diplomatic tact. The last effort which we have noticed of this kind, is the miserable sop which she has thrown out to Ireland, to purchase up the chivalrous people of that country, to fight the battles of British usurpation, against the just claims of America, in Oregon. After abusing, oppressing, and insulting the Irish people for centuries, until she has well nigh alienated the whole nation from her government, finding herself in a position, in which she will require men to fight for her, she coolly attempts to purchase the Irish, by making a pitiful grant to a Catholic College! This pitiful act, it is thought by the lords of England, will fully "pacify" the Irish, and not only make them contented under the thousand wrongs which they suffer British oppression, but will actually arm them against the United States, and their brethren here! A poor compliment to Irish character surely, if we mistake not, a most enormous opinion of Irish feeling. Ireland demands of England, full reparation for all her wrongs—nothing short of this will "pacify" her. [Age.]

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, JUNE 10, 1845.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION IN RELATION TO THE CLAIMS OF THE STATE OF MAINE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

We have received a copy of the Report of the Legislative Committee, appointed last winter, to inquire into the manner in which these claims have been prosecuted at Washington, and after a careful perusal, find nothing in them to justify the various charges which come of the Whig presses and Whig leaders make against Mr. Harris, our agent at Washington. The majority of the Committee say, "that he has discharged the duties imposed upon him with a zeal and fidelity which are honorable to himself, and the State which he has represented." The minority of the Committee admit all this, so far as the "large claims" of the State, under the treaty, are concerned, but confine their investigation to certain other and smaller claims, which grew out of the detention of timber in the Aroostook Boom belonging to individuals, by the authorities of Maine, in 1839, and as they were finally audited by the Governor and Council, in June, 1844, amounting to \$19,605 56.

By a Resolve of the Legislature, the Governor and Council were authorized to audit and allow these claims, and to forward the requisite proofs of those allowed to the proper authorities at Washington, and also to pay over to the claimants the sums allowed them, when received from the United States. The claims allowed were presented at Washington, by our Agent, with the receipts—which he had procured—of the individual claimants endorsed thereon. These receipts imported a payment, by the State, of the respective sums audited, and Mr. Harris believed would be found necessary, in compliance with the forms of the Treasury Department, before the claims which they referred to could be paid. The majority of the Committee in regard to these receipts say, "When it is considered that all the papers upon the subject of these claims filed in the Auditor's office at Washington, considered with reference to each other, would have proved conclusively that Maine had not paid to the individual claimants, the sums purporting to have been paid by the receipts referred to, it would seem to require a forced construction of the facts, in connection with the testimony of Mr. Harris, to justify the conclusion that he has attempted to impose a fraud upon the Treasury Department of the United States."

The Resolve of the Legislature, referred to above, which furnishes the sole basis of all subsequent action upon these claims, especially negatives the idea that they could have actually been paid by Maine, until after payment had been made by the United States Government, and was filed, by Mr. Harris, in the Auditor's Office, at Washington, as early as September, 1843. He would therefore, have found it necessary to satisfy the accounting officers, at Washington, that the authorities of the State of Maine had transferred the power given them by the Resolve by which they pretended to act, and had, without any authority, paid to the claimants the amount of the several claims which had been audited, before he could have passed off the receipts alluded to as evidence of actual payment by Maine of the several sums specified therein, or have sent them for any other apparent object than such as was effected by him in his examination, merely as "tokens."

These claims were not allowed by the Auditor—for reasons not connected with the receipts, and which Mr. Harris deems insufficient—and have not been paid.

These are the facts as we gather them from the Report. We do not see that there is any just cause to suppose that Mr. Harris intended to make a bad use of these vouchers, nor do we see how he could have done so had he been disposed. But the Whig presses and the leaders of the party, ostensibly to protect the General Government from fraud and imposition, but in reality to make political capital, have seized upon the facts of the case with blind zeal, and are exerting their whole strength to prevent the payment of these claims. Strangely enough, they blame our Agent, not for being too remiss, but for being too zealous, in his efforts—not for getting too small a payment, but for being likely to get too great a payment; and still more strange, they assume to stand as guardians of the National Treasury, and pretend to protect the General Government from the frauds of Maine! Who ever heard the like of the Whigs before? Protectors, indeed!!!

Important discovery if true. A scientific gentleman residing at Ipswich, England, has lately discovered a method by which the hardest stone can be brought into a consistency resembling putty, so that it can be moulded into any shape, without altering its general character and appearance; after which it becomes as hard, and in some instances even harder, than before subjected to the process. One peculiarity of the process is, that any color, or variety of colors, can be imparted to it, so that an endless variety of shades can be produced, and as it is capable of being polished, it effectually resists the action of the weather. It can also be used as cement, and can be brushed over the surface of wood so as to render it fire-proof.

There is a British Fleet in the Gulf of Mexico, consisting of a ship of the line, a frigate, a sloop of war, and a ten gun brig.

The second Adventists. Messrs. Miller and Himes, the great apostles of the second Advent believers, have been preaching to the people of Portland. Mr. Miller, says the Argus, exhorted his hearers to go to work, live good lives, and watch daily for the Son of Man. He said if he had been as foolish as these idlers, referring to those who have thrown by labor, he should want to go as far as Texas before he stopped. The loafers that have been hanging about and living upon those of the believers who happened to have the wherewith to live upon, received a severe scourging, and were told plainly to go to work, and not think they were serving God, by waiting for the coming of his Son, with their hands folded, and nothing in their pockets to buy oil for their lamps. Elder Himes also urged upon them to band together, and not be disheartened.

The evident design of the leaders in this fallacy, is, to rally their scattered and discouraged followers, and keep up a separate religious organization.

Turkey. The Sultan has lately astonished the nations of the earth by his edict in favor of popular education throughout his realms. It appears by the latest foreign news, that he has since issued a *firman*, summoning, from the several provinces of the empire, to meet at Constantinople, delegates chosen from the provinces themselves, "men of discretion, skilled in affairs, animated by patriotic sentiments, and zealous for the prosperity of the state and nation,"—for the purpose of enlightening the Government as to the wants and conditions of their several localities, and carrying back in person to their constituents the measures of relief.

Rather a queer move for a Despotie Government like that of Turkey and bordering closely upon Republicanism. May it progress until the whole Turkish Empire shall be enlightened, and the dark regions of Mahomedanism receive the rays of light of knowledge which shall make them wiser, happier, and better.

China. The law heretofore existing in China that no man once leaving the country should be permitted to return or penalty of death, has been rescinded since the opening of the country to missionaries, and permission given to all to return if they wish. The consequence is, that many are returning from India and other countries—some of them, it may be hoped, imbued with the spirit, as well as knowledge of Christianity.

Camden Race Course—Horrible accident. At the race between Fashion and Peytona, on the 28th ult. a horrible accident took place. As the horses were brought up in front of the judges' stand, previous to starting, the center of the main stabling, which was two stories high, containing from 12,000 to 15,000 persons, gave way, dashing those on the upper part to the earth with fearful violence, while those on the lower part were crushed and maimed in the most shocking manner. About one hundred of the occupants were injured more or less, some of them having bones broken, but no lives lost.

In despite of the lamentable accident, the race came off. Fashion won the race with comparative ease. Time first heat, 7: 47—second heat, 7: 58. Four mile heats.

The Bangor people are soon to have an Iron Steam Ship to run between their City and Boston. She is to be 120 feet in length on deck, 23 feet beam and 9 1-2 feet depth of hold. Has in her cabin 87 berths and sufficient room to put up 48 cots, making in all room and accommodation sufficient for 135 passengers. Her promenade deck is 80 feet long. She has two Engines of 60 horse power each, and Leipsitz patent propellers, which are said to be far superior to any others in use, and is expected to make the trip in 24 hours.

Our State Prison. The Thomaston Recorder says:—"We had shown us a few days ago, a Pamphlet written by an old convict, in which he charges the officers of that institution with every species of cruelty, and the Warden, Col. Carr, with treachery, deceit, falsehood, and drunkenness. We presume it will not be noticed by either of the officers of the Prison, it being so palpable false in every particular."

Wool. The Boston Courier of the 2d inst. says:—"The transactions during the week are rather limited in extent. The growers are just beginning to shear their sheep, and the heaviest clip ever produced in this country will soon be for sale."

The Pope of Rome is not the only person who makes war against Odd Fellows. Six of that fraternity have been excommunicated by the Baptist Church in Unionville, Washington county, in this State, on account of the supposed inconsistency of the tenets of their order with a religious profession.

In former times, says the Boston Post, we used to hear of "church mauling," as applied to delinquent members of churches; but those who have attended the Anti Slavery meetings this week find the thing entirely reversed, it being the principal thing of the dissenting orators to maul the church.

The Boston Mail speaks of some tobacco which if a man smoke, or chews, he "will forget that he owes a dollar in the world." We are afraid that some of our subscribers chew that kind of tobacco and smoke the ends afterwards.

America could support nine hundred and thirty millions of people without being so densely populated as Europe now is.

Chapman thinks the mulatto lady who was delivered of three babies at a birth, white, yellow, and black, must have been reading Clay's letters on Texas.

School Master wanted. A ballot was found in the box in one of the Ohio townships, at the late election, endorsed—"No Schule Tacks?"

Asa Thayer Jr. Esq. has been appointed Postmaster at Norway in place of G. J. Ordway removed.

Great Fire in Quebec, and Loss of Life. A fire broke out on the forenoon of the 28th ult., which raged to a terrible extent, nor was it extinguished until nearly one third of the inhabitants, chiefly French Canadians, were rendered houseless. It commenced in the tannery of Mr. Richardson, in St. Valere street. The day was remarkable warm—the wind blew strongly from the west, and as the flames rapidly communicated to the adjoining building, it soon became evident that all human endeavors to arrest the progress of the fire, in a locale studded, for the most part with wooden buildings alone, would be useless—an impression too fully verified. A letter describing this sad catastrophe, dated the 29th, says: "From eleven in the morning, until midnight did this dread fire hold uninterrupted sway, until its career was arrested in St. Charles street—nearly one mile from the place of its outbreak!—at the broadest point the breadth of the burnt district is about one-third of a mile. Between 1500 and 2000 houses are supposed to have been consumed, and it is calculated that 12,000 persons (one third of the population) are this day houseless. Most of these people have lost their all, the rapid advance, and sudden, unexpected directions taken by the flames, not only rendering it impossible to save any portion of the property in the dwellings, but in a vast number of instances barely allowing the inmates sufficient time to escape."

At an adjourned meeting of that of last night, we are informed that the extremely handsome sum of upwards of \$28,000 was subscribed; the list being still open. We also learn that the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese has issued circulars to his clergy, directing them to collect donations of every description in aid of the sufferers.

Various rumors are afloat as to the number of lives lost. We have seen seven crissed and mutilated remains. Of those two were mothers with their infants clasped to their bosoms! It is feared that many victims yet unknown will soon be discovered.

Eighteen schooners were burnt at the Palais, also a new vessel; Mann's ship-yard is completely destroyed. The whole of St. Roch's is a mere wilderness of chimneys.

The loss of property has been attended with great loss of life. It is conjectured that not less than one hundred persons have perished!!

The total loss has been variously estimated at from \$1,600,000 to \$2,000,000.

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Fire in Portland. A fire broke out on the night of the 2d inst. on Price street which destroyed four dwelling houses. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary. Loss about \$7,000.

\$1000 reward have been offered by the Mayor and Aldermen for the apprehension of the incendiaries.

Another Fire in Portland. The Argus of the 5th inst. says: "Our citizens were aroused again last night at 12 o'clock, by the cry of fire, which proved to be in Plum street, in the carpenter shop of Messrs. Larabee & Cleaves. The building was owned by Capt. Thomas McLellan, and was destroyed. The occupants had a good deal of work unfinished, in the building, and most of their tools,—all of which were destroyed." Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

It is stated in one of our exchange papers that property to the amount of twelve millions of dollars has been consumed by fire in the United States within two months.

Try it. It is said that Sage put into a closet or other place infested with those troublesome little customers—Red Ants—will effectually put a stop to their visits.

A Dirty City. The New York Sun says that the new street sweepers up to last Monday (nine days) took up and carried off fifty four thousand cart loads of manure.

Sar. Wm. Andrews 2d, has been appointed Postmaster at Brid ton, (Cumberland County) vice R. Cream, removed.

The Belfast Republican says:—"We understand that Mr. W. T. Colburn, has been appointed Postmaster of Belfast."

Messrs. Little & Brown, publishers in Boston, pay Judge Story \$9,000 a year for the copy right of his Law Books.

Gen. Jackson was well enough to ride out, at the last accounts.

DEADLY SUICIDE. About 8 o'clock on Tuesday evening last, Francis Butler, Esq., of Farmington, was discovered in an outbuilding of the Cushnoc House in this town, with his throat cut in a horrible manner. He was alive and apparently sensible when found, and at the time our paper went to press (Wednesday noon) he still breathed, although very little hope existed of his surviving. Mr. B. was reputed a very wealthy man, and the owner of a large amount of valuable real estate in this town; but he has for several weeks past labored under great depression of spirit in relation to his pecuniary affairs—the conviction constantly weighing upon his mind that he was a ruined man and that his family would come to want. He is about 63.

What an illustration of the insufficiency of wealth alone to promote the happiness of its possessor? Augusta Banner.

Mr. Butler expired on the afternoon of Sunday last. The character of the wounds inflicted being such as to render surgical aid of no avail.—[Age.]

THE IRON TRADE. It is estimated that one hundred new furnaces are in progress, or in contemplation of erection, in Pennsylvania. The increasing demand for iron, it is said, will not even then be supplied. In the three counties of Clarion, Armstrong and Venango, no less than twelve new furnaces are in progress of erection. The works at Danville alone will consume one hundred thousand tons of anthracite coal this year.

THE PEACE MAKER.
The Largest Cannon ever made. The Monster Gun from the Princeton is nearly completed in England. It is the largest cannon ever made in that country, and requiring great skill and attention to perfect it as a solid mass, it has become an object of considerable interest and curiosity amongst nautical and scientific men. The following is the description given in an English paper of this formidable weapon.

The gun, as sent to the foundry, weighed 11 tons 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs. In the turning and boring it was reduced in weight about 2 tons 1 cwt. The length of the cannon, now it is turned and bored, is 13 feet, and the bore 12 feet in length, and 12 in diameter, leaving a thickness of solid metal of one foot at the breech. In form the piece is plain and unassuming in appearance, without raised mouldings or rings (on the French system), the object being to attain the required strength at each point, without useless metal; and the whole tapering nearly equally from the breech, which is 27 1/2 inches in diameter, to the muzzle, which is 19 inches—giving a thickness of metal to it as a tube of 7 3/4 inches at the former, and 3 1/2 inches at the latter. The model for this gun was provided by the Americans, who ordered it, and was made on an inch and a-half scale.

The turning and boring occupied over a space of nearly three months, though the operation is by no means slow, considering the quantity of metal to be cut away at a gradual and cautious rate to prevent any imperfection. The first drill introduced was 7 inches in diameter; and about a foot from it, a ten inch boring-head followed on the same shaft, making a bore of 10 inches at once. An 11 3/4 inch drill was next used, and finally one of 12 inches. The gun, finally adjusted in the lathe, was turned, the borers being stationary. The finishing operation with the 12 inch drill took three successive days and nights, without intercession, the engine being kept at work, least by ceasing even for a short time, the contraction or expansion of the iron might, from alternate heat and cold, prevent the production of the desired trueness of the bore, or leave a mark. As it is, the bore is as fine and smooth as that of a first rate fowling piece; and the exterior of the gun is equally bright and smooth.

Through the centre of the breech a large hole is drilled to admit a thick bolt, with a large head, to be counter sunk in the rounded cup or basin of the breech, where the charge will be deposited. This bolt terminates exteriorly in a strong screw, upon which will be secured the outer or terminating breech piece as a finish; and this pin is so massive at the head, and will be so closely fitted, that it will become part and parcel of the gun, and cannot be blown out by any explosion which the piece will bear. In looking through this hole (now open) the whole resembles a huge telescope.

The piece will be poised on its carriage on strong trunnions of 8 1/2 inches long, forged upon a massive iron bolt or ring encircling the gun near its centre. The bolt is 11 1/2 inches in width, and 3 1/2 in thickness, and will also be brightly polished. It will be put on in a hot state, so as to contract in cooling, like the tire of a wheel. Immediately in front of this bolt (which cannot move toward the breech, from the increasing thickness of the gun, as well as a small flange) a groove or flat ribbon indenture has been turned out of the gun. Round this a hoop or belt of iron will be put on, to fit flush, but not welded; and over this another hoop of strong iron will be driven on hot, and in contracting will clip the other tightly, that the trunnion bolt will become immovable, or, as it were, in one mass with the gun, to resist all recoil or shock, the gun itself not being weakened in the least degree by any drilling or perforation to secure the belt.

The balls which this monster gun will carry will each be 11 3/4 inches in diameter, a quarter of an inch being left for windrow, and will each weigh in cast iron 236 lbs.; so that the piece is in reality a "236 pounder." Before delivery, it will be proved at Boodle Bay, with a double charge of gunpowder (45 lbs.) and two balls, weighing 472 lbs. It will be covered during the experiment with mats and sand, to avert the consequences of any accident from disruption—though this, from its admirable and scientific construction, is by no means to be apprehended. The Princeton is, we learn, to be here shortly to take the monster on board.

COOKING ASPARAGUS. To be first rate, the stalks should be grown from four to six inches from the ground, and fresh cut. Wash the stalks clean, and cut them in bits about half an inch long. If the stalks are of different sizes, cut the large ones shorter than the small ones, so as to give them an equal chance to boil and get seasoned. The cook should throw aside the stalks as soon as it begins to cut tough; that is, she is to use only the tender part unless the asparagus is very scarce, when she can divide the tougher from the tender portions, and put the tougher to boil about ten minutes first. Salt the water in proportion to a tablespoonful of salt to two quarts of water, which is sufficient to boil one quart to peices in. Have the water boiling when the asparagus is put in, and keep it boiling fast for about half an hour. The best way to know when it is cooked enough, is to take up one or two peices and taste, for it sometimes cooks quicker than at others, according as it has grown quick or slow. While it is boiling, get ready, say for a quart of the asparagus, two slices of bread cut half an inch thick for a common sized wheel loaf, toasted a light brown, and a large gill of melted butter. When the asparagus is done, take it up with a skimmer, and lay it on a colander; or sieve to drain, dip the slices of bread one at a time, first in the hot asparagus liquor, and then in

the melted butter. Then put it in the middle of the dish that it is to be served on. When this is done, pour the asparagus over and around the toast, and strew the rest of the butter as evenly over it as possible, when it is ready for the table. If however the rest of the dinner should not be ready, let the asparagus be kept hot until it is; for if the cook does not serve her asparagus hot, she will lose much of her labor and credit. [Mrs. N. Darling, in the Cult.]

LYING. Lying supplies those who are addicted to it with a plausible apology for every crime, and with a supposed shelter from punishment. It tempts them to rush into danger from the mere expectation of impunity; and when practised with frequent success, it teaches them to confound the gradations of guilt, from the effects of which there is, in their imaginations, at least and sure and common protection. It corrupts the early simplicity of youth; it blasts the fairest blossoms of genius; and will, most assuredly concentrated every effort by which we may hope to improve the talents and mature the virtues of those whom it infects.

EARLY RISING.—The difference between rising every morning at six and at eight, in the course of forty years amounts to twenty-nine thousand two hundred hours, or three years one hundred and twenty-one days and sixteen hours, which are equal to eight hours of a day for exactly ten years. So that rising at six will be the same as if ten years of life (weighty consideration) were added, wherein we may command eight hours every day for the cultivation of our minds and the dispatch of business.

To the Hon. County Commissioners in and for the County of Oxford.

THE undersigned Petitioners would respectfully represent, that in our opinion the public good requires that a road should be laid from the County of Oxford, commencing near William Woodsum's farm, in Peru, and running the most convenient route to unite with the County road near Francis Waite; that said County road leading from this point to the River Androscoggin, and thence to the line of said County, should be altered, or a new road located from the said point of union to Robinson Turner's Mills, to unite with the County road near the same by the most feasible route; that a road should be located from the most convenient point near said Mills, crossing the Androscoggin River to the County road on the Oxford side of said River, the most practicable route to unite with said road; and that a ferry should be located to accommodate the last mentioned route. We, therefore, pray your Honors to view said route and locate the whole, or such part, or make such alterations, as you in your wisdom shall deem proper.

WILLIAM WOODSUM and 106 others.

STATE OF MAINE.
Oxford, ss.—At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden at Paris, within and for said County of Oxford, on the second Tuesday of May, A. D., 1845.

THE foregoing petition, Ordered, That the petitioners give notice to all persons and corporations interested, that the County Commissioners will meet at William Woodsum's house, in said Peru, on the ninth day of July next, at ten o'clock, A. M., when they will proceed to view the route set forth in the petition; and immediately after such view, at some convenient place in the vicinity, will give a hearing to the parties and their witnesses, by causing attested copies of said petition, and of this Order of Notice thereon, to be served on the Clerks of said towns of Dixfield and Peru and Franklin Plantation, and by posting up like copies in three public places in said towns of Dixfield and Peru, and Franklin Plantation, and by publishing the same three weeks successively in the Oxford Democrat, printed at Paris, the first of said publications and each of the other notices to be made, served, and posted, at least, thirty days before the said time of meeting, that all persons interested may then and there appear, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted.

Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.
Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.

To the Hon. County Commissioners for the County of Oxford.

THE undersigned inhabitants of said County would respectfully represent, that an improved road is much needed from Andover Corner to New Hampshire Line to intersect with a recently located road through the town of Cambridge from Gros to Joseph H. making such alterations in the present travelled route as you may upon examination deem expedient.

SIMON W. GREGG and 35 others.

Andover, March 24, 1845.

STATE OF MAINE.

Oxford, ss.—Court of County Commissioners, May Term, 1845.

ON the foregoing petition, satisfactory evidence having been received that the petitioners are entitled to and ought to be heard touching the matter set forth in said petition, it is Ordered, That notice be given to the County Commissioners will meet at Crockett's Tavern in said Andover, on Tuesday the twenty-third day of September next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and thence proceed to view the route mentioned in the petition, and immediately afterwards hear the parties and their witnesses and take such further measures in the premises as may be adjudged proper. Said notice to be given by publishing the foregoing petition with this order thereon six weeks successively in the Oxford Democrat, printed at said Paris, the last of each of said publications to be at least thirty days before the time of said meeting; and by posting up attested copies of the same in three public places in said Andover, and serving a similar copy on the clerk of said town, at least thirty days before said time of meeting, that all persons and corporations interested may then and there appear and be heard, if they see cause.

Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.
Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.

Notice of Foreclosure.

THE subscriber being assignee of a certain mortgage deed given by John B. Mason to Abernethy Grover of a certain tract of land situated in Bethel, and for a description of said land reference being had to the Oxford Records, book 63, page 552, the conditions being broken, the subscriber claims a foreclosure of said mortgage.

TIMOTHY WALKER.

Rumford, May 27, 1845.

Notice of Foreclosure.

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TIMOTHY WALKER.

Rumford, May 27, 1845.

To the Hon. County Commissioners for the County of Oxford at their Session to be holden at Paris, within and for said County, on the second Tuesday of May, 1845.

THE undersigned respectfully represent that convenience and necessity require the location of a new County road commencing at the corner of the road near Sampson Reed's dwelling house in Hartford, thence in the most feasible route by or near the dwelling house of Isaac Fuller; to due to strike the County road near Stephen Gammon, in Turner. Wherefore your Petitioners pray that after due proceedings had, you would view the premises, and if practicable locate said road or such part thereof as you in your wisdom may deem just and proper.

SAMPSON REED, & 43 others.

Hartford, May 7, 1845.

STATE OF MAINE.

Oxford, ss. At a meeting of the County Commissioners, begun and holden at Paris, within and for said County of Oxford, on the second Tuesday of May, A. D., 1845.

ON the foregoing petition, Ordered, that the petitioners give notice to all persons and corporations interested, that the County Commissioners will meet at Stephen Gammon's house, in Turner, on the first day of July next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, when they will proceed to view the route set forth in the petition; and immediately after such view, at some convenient place in the vicinity, will give a hearing to the parties and their witnesses, by causing attested copies of said petition, and of this Order of Notice thereon, to be served on the Clerks of said towns of Hartford and Turner, and by posting up like copies in three public places in said towns of Hartford and Turner, and by publishing the same three weeks successively in the Oxford Democrat, printed at Paris, the first of said publications and each of the other notices to be made, served, and posted, at least, thirty days before the said time of meeting, that all persons interested may then and there appear, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted.

Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.
Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.

A true copy of the petition and order thereon.

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SOUTH PARIS WOOLLEN FACTORY.

THE SOUTH PARIS MANUFACTURING COMPANY would respectfully give notice that they continue the custom manufacturing of shawls, and are now prepared to receive Wool to manufacture for customers, at the houses, or at the following rates, viz:

Casimere, from	35 to 45 cts. per yd.
Fully cloth.	30 to 37 1/2 cts. per yd.
Saline, and find warp.	25 to 33 cts. per yd.
Blanketing, over 2 yds wide.	28 to 35 cts. per yd.
White Flannel.	25 cts. per yd.
Colored and pressed.	25 cts. per yd.
Cloth Dressing.	8 to 17 cts. per yd.

A good assortment of the above named cloths will be kept at the Factory, and customers can be supplied with cloths on the delivery of their Wool.

All Wool should be well washed.

If any work goes out of their hands unsatisfactorily done, they hold themselves accountable for the damage.

Thankful to the public for the liberal share of patronage heretofore received, they hope, by their improvement in manufacturing and by despatch of business, for a continuance of their favor.

ISAAC HARLOW, Agent.

South Paris, May, 1845.



For Coughs, Colds, Consumptions, and all Diseases of the Throat, Lungs and Chest.

THE VEGETABLE PULMONARY BAL-SAM is an old, well tried, and almost universally approved remedy, and has been extensively used for the last 15 or 20 years in almost every city and town in New England, and also very extensively at the South and West. It is recommended and prescribed by many of the most respectable physicians as a safe, convenient and very efficacious medicine, and is the only one of the kind, who have for a long time used it, to be the most valuable remedy for the above complaints ever offered to the American public.

The proprietors of this article cannot resort to the style of advertising which is often adopted at the present day. They do not wish to deceive the credulous and unsuspecting, but appeal, with confidence, to the facts and experience of a discriminating public. There are few individuals in New England who have not used this preparation themselves, or who have not friends who have used it. Numerous certificates from physicians and others, and the many testimonials, which are in the hands of the public, are sufficient to establish its value. It is deemed unnecessary to add any at this time. Be sure to get the genuine. Call for it by its whole name, "Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam," and avoid "Carter's Pulmonary Balsam," and the numerous imitations which have sprung up in consequence of the great celebrity of the true article. See that it is signed Wm. Jon's Cutler. Prepared by Reed, Wing & Cutler, wholesale druggists, 64 Chatham street, Boston, and sold by druggists, apothecaries, and country merchants, and mark this, [C] they can never do the least injury in any case whatever.

These excellent Bitters will be found a certain cure in cases of Indigestion or Dyspepsia, Jaundice, Loss of Appetite, General Debility, Faintness and Sinking of the Stomach, Lowness of spirits, Constipation, Determination of Blood to the Head, Pains in the Limbs and Side, Headache, Weakness, Dizziness, Catarrhus Vesiculae, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Night Sweats, Nervous and Sick Headache, Acidity of Stomach, Bilious Affections, Piles, Constipation, and in all diseases caused by impurity of the blood, the debility of the system, or the unhealthy state of the stomach and bowels.

They are also exceedingly efficacious in restoring constitution broken down by sedentary employments, and have been extensively used by Clergymen, Editors, Printers, Clerks, Seamen, and numerous others whose health had been injured by confinement and close application, with the happiest results. They restore the action of the stomach, increase the quantity of the blood, and impart to the wane and emaciated system of the invalid the vigor and glow of true health.

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They are kept by many persons as a FAMILY MEDICINE, and have been given to the YOUNGEST CHILDREN, on account of the mildness of their operation, with excellent effect.

The following are a few of the many new recommendations, which have been sent to the proprietor of BROWN'S SASSAPARILLA and TOMATO BITTERS within a short time.

REMEMBER—Always ask for Brown's, as there are counterfeits.

My former agent in Portland, Me., still continues to recommend Brown's Sarsaparilla and Tomato Bitters in the following terms:—

Mr. Hays, lately one of the firm of T. B. Hays & Co. Druggists in Portland, Me., and formerly agent for Brown's Sarsaparilla and Tomato Bitters, says he knows from experience they are one of the most valuable medicines ever used, and now recommends them to all he says no medicine ever sold so rapidly, or was ever liked less as well, he knows of many that have been cured or greatly relieved by its use.

Mr. E. Mason, after having the Agency for Portland a few days, writes the following:—

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Our customers recommend them very highly, and they are recommended by some of our first physicians.

Yours, in haste,

E. MASON.

The following is a recommendation from Falmouth:—

To Mr. Brown, Chemist, Boston.

I certify that my wife has been afflicted with a very bad humor on her face, and at her stomach, for fifteen years past. After using various medicines recommended for her complaint with little or no benefit, she commenced using, by the advice of Mr. Edward Mason, Apothecary, your Sarsaparilla and Tomato Bitters, and she is now in better health than she has been for years.

I would therefore recommend to all and every one who is afflicted with any of the complaints which this medicine is recommended for, to use it in preference to any article now in use.

Yours, respectfully,

J. B. LEACH.

Falmouth, May 21, 1844.

Sold, wholesale and retail, by F. BROWN, the proprietor, 62 Washington-street, Boston; and Wm. Brown, 431 Washington-street, Boston; and by Druggists and regular appointed Agents in the city and country.

Agents.—Paris, THOMAS CROCKER, Norway, A. C. Denison & Co., North Livermore, J. Coolidge, Canton Mills, J. M. Deane, Dixfield, Chas. T. Chase, Rumford, Joshua Graham, Rumford, Chas. J. H. Wardwell, Wilton, J. E. Forney, East Wilton, J. & E. Beane, Augusta, L. Fuller, Aug. 27.

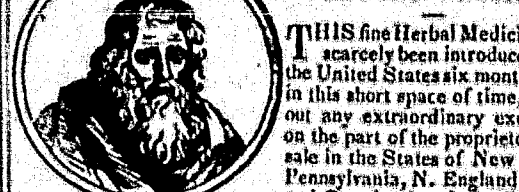
TIMOTHY LUDDEN,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

TURNER-VILLAGE, ME.

PAR'S LIFE PILLS.

THOMAS PARK.
Born 1483—Died 1635.



THIS fine Herbal Medicine has been introduced into the United States six months, yet in this short space of time, without any extraordinary exertions on the part of the proprietors, it has become a household name in the States of New York, Pennsylvania, N. England, and Canada, has increased with such rapidity as to exceed their most sanguine expectations. The public are now beginning to understand and appreciate the superior efficacy of this mild medicine in the powerful purgatives that have been hitherto sold them in the shape of pills which may give relief for a short time but always at the expense of the system, by enfeebling and rendering it more liable to receive a second dose of the same. On the contrary, Par's Life Pills gently eradicate disease by removing all obstructions in the intestinal canal, purifying the blood, strengthening the system, and creating a natural and healthy action of the body—they also act powerfully as a tonic, and restore to the patient a long-lost appetite and a healthy craving for food. As a family medicine it is unequalled, and may be taken by every member of a family from the youngest to the oldest, being perfectly free from all mineral preparations, giving no pain, and acting mildly as a purgative. Many females who have taken this medicine speak in the highest terms of the great benefit they have had from the use of it, and to all females of a delicate habit of body we would particularly recommend this medicine; they will find it agreeable to take, soothing to the system, and certain in removing the four and ten mor from the body—in the spring the turpids and acrimonious fluids that have lain dormant in the body during the winter, but are again brought into activity, will be speedily removed by taking Par's Life Pills every night, before going to bed, for two or three weeks. The proprietors have already many excellent testimonials of the efficacy of Par's Life Pills in bilious and scorbatic complaints, chronic cases of colic, constipation of the bowels, dyspepsia, liver complaint, indigestion, and complaints incidental to females.

Thus diseases known by the names of abscess, languor, ague, leprosy, asthma, liver complaint, low spirits, bilious complaints, humors, blotches on the skin, measles, bowel complaints, nervous affections, cancer, pain in the breast, cholera morbus, palpitations, constipation of bowels, paralysis, consumptions, phlegm, convulsions, palsy, debility, rheumatism, dropsy, ringworm, dizziness, vertigo or king's evil, faintings, sore throat, fever of all kinds, stranguary, female irregularities, strictures, fits, tic doloureux, gonorrhea, giddiness, venereal affections, all kinds of glandular swellings, headache, whooping cough, heart burn, white swellings, hoarseness, worms of every kind, inflammation, warts, indigestion, weakness from whatever cause, jaundice, &c. have all been cured, simply by the use of PAR'S LIFE PILLS, thus showing that what has been considered different disorders, and requiring different treatment, all originated in the same cause, and can be cured by one universal remedy. PAR'S LIFE PILLS, although powerful in curing disease, yet are as pure and harmless as new milk, and may be administered with confidence to the invalid, however weakly from long ill health, who will soon enjoy those delightful symptoms of a return to strong health, viz: good appetite, sound sleep, and an increase of animal spirits.

To have produced a medicine so benign and mild in its operation and effect, and yet so efficacious in searching out and curing the diseases of long standing, exhibits on the part of the Par's Life Pills, most thorough knowledge of human nature. Those who have been the instruments of restoring this long lost secret to the world, feel confident, when they make the assertion, that none need despair, that if only a fair trial be given, the result will be the restoration to health and happiness.

And thus Par's Life Pills are blessed with honored days.

Agents.—Paris, THOMAS CROCKER, Norway, A. C. Denison & Co.; North Livermore, J. Coolidge; Canton Mills, J. M. Deane; Dixfield, Chas. T. Chase; Rumford, Joshua Graham; Rumford, Chas. J. H. Wardwell; Wilton, J. E. Forney; East Wilton, J. & E. Beane; Augusta, L. Fuller; 128 Washington St., Boston. Single boxes, 25 cts. Double boxes, 50 cts. with full directions.—Aug. 27, 16.

F. BROWN'S

Sarsaparilla and Tomato Bitters.

THIS is no quack nostrum; it is prepared from the best materials, and the receipt has been examined and approved by many of the first Physicians in the United States.

The true means of preserving the Health and Strength is to purify the blood and correct the unhealthy state of the bowels. For this purpose we recommend the Sarsaparilla and Tomato Bitters.

The component ingredients of these Bitters is no secret. They are composed of a very strong preparation of the celebrated Sarsaparilla and TOMATOES have been combined, and the result has met the most sanguine expectations of the medical profession. The whole vegetable kingdom does not furnish two substances so admirably adapted to PURIFY, SOFTEN, and INVIGORATE the human system. These Bitters have all the effect of the most powerful purgatives when used in sufficient quantity, and yet are so mild in their operation that they may be given to persons in the most delicate health with perfect safety. They are also very agreeable to the taste.

These excellent Bitters will be found a certain cure in cases of Indigestion or Dyspepsia, Jaundice, Loss of Appetite, General Debility, Faintness and Sinking of the Stomach, Lowness of spirits, Constipation, Determination of Blood to the Head, Pains in the Limbs and Side, Headache, Weakness, Dizziness, Catarrhus Vesiculae, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, Night Sweats, Nervous and Sick Headache, Acidity of Stomach, Bilious Affections, Piles, Constipation, and in all diseases caused by impurity of the blood, the debility of the system, or the unhealthy state of the stomach and bowels.

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DR. JOHN D. BUZZELL'S Family Medicines.

VEGETABLE BILIOUS BITTERS.
THESE Bitters are particularly serviceable when used alone in all cases of obstructions in the stomach and bowels, in chronic affections of the liver, and in other derangements and diseases proceeding from a diseased state of that organ; such as loss of appetite, flatulency of the stomach, constipation, dizziness, headache, jaundice, Asthma, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Indigestion, Diarrhea, Pains in the stomach, eruptions on the face and neck, and are an excellent purifier of the Blood. When these Bitters are taken in connection with the Vegetable Pills and Anti-acid Preparation they will remove most inveterate chronic diseases, even in cases where mercury has been unsuccessfully administered.

VEGETABLE BILLIOUS PILLS.
The reputation of these Pills stands unrivaled for the cure of nervous or Bilious headache, constipation, indigestion, dyspepsia and all disorders of the stomach; they are so compounded as to be slow in their operation, but after they have thoroughly operated upon the stomach and bowels, one or two pills is sufficient to purge the system, and in their operation they not only purge and cleanse the stomach and bowels from every impurity, but strengthen and give new life and vigor to the digestive organs, &c.

ANTI-ACID AND CARMITATIVE PREPARATION.

This medicine has been successfully used for sources and wind in the stomach, and is a valuable specific in all cases of nervous irritability and hysteria, hypochondria, asthma, palsy and proplexy, &c.

COUGH MIXTURE.

The reputation of this mixture stands unrivaled for the cure of all coughs proceeding from colds, asthma, chronic catarrh, influenza and influenza, curing without opiates, and chronic affections of the liver, which frequently produce a cough. It is decidedly the best medicine ever discovered for the cure of the whooping cough.

COMPOUND STRENGTHENING PLASTER.

All who have used this plaster have found it to be a sure remedy for pain or weakness in the stomach, back, side, chest, loins, muscles, joints, &c., and for lung and liver complaints, coughs, colds, asthma, rheumatism, &c.

HERMORRHOIDAL, OR PILE POWDER.

This medicine may be relied upon to give immediate relief, and its use persevered in, will effect a certain cure of this truly painful and troublesome disease. This specific has been used by the proprietor in the present at a Private Court, and he has never known an instance where it has failed to effect a cure. Try it.

Ointment for the cure of the itch and all other cutaneous eruptions.

This ointment is a safe and efficacious remedy for the cure of the itch and all cutaneous eruptions, and for a scald head, one of the worst of humors.

It is a sure remedy for sores and humors upon the face, which when children are afflicted, curing without leaving a scar, observing in all cases to take according to accompanying directions, the anti-eruptive or cooling powder.

ANTI-ERUPTIVE OR COOLING POWDER.

A sure remedy for inflammation of the blood or other fluids from which proceed the St. Anthony's Fire, Salt Rheum, and other eruptions of the skin.

Agents—Oxford County.

Paris, J. C. MARBLE, Norway, J. Crockett, Oxford, J